AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

1. (Currently Amended) A method for the production of geotextiles of melt-spun filaments through hydrodynamic intertwining, said method comprising:

depositing melt-spun filaments onto a continuous screen band in a suction zone having an underpressure of 1 to 100 mbar applied to the filaments, wherein the filaments are held onto the screen band by the applied suction,

compacting the filaments onto the screen band by a compacting band,

transporting the filaments to a first curing stage, and

hydrodynamically intertwining the filaments in the first curing stage, wherein the filaments are sufficiently cured such that the filaments may be transported to additional curing stages without tension from a take-up roller supporting ~~support from~~ the screen band.

2. (Previously Presented) The method as claimed in claim 1, further comprising guiding the filaments through one or more additional curing stages.

4-5. (Cancelled)

6. (Withdrawn) An apparatus for the production of geotextiles of melt-spun filaments, wherein beneath the deposition apparatus is guided a screen band, to which suction zones are applied and the screen band is guided up to the first curing device.

7. (Withdrawn) Geotextiles produced according to the method as claimed in claim 1.

8. (Previously Presented) The method as claimed in claim 1, wherein in the first curing stage, the screen band serves as a filter, and water jets act through the screen band, wherein the mesh size of the screen band is 1-8 cm^{-1}.

9. (Previously Presented) The method as claimed in claim 1, wherein in the first curing stage, the screen band serves as a support and has a mesh size of 10-100 cm^{-1}.